# STATE OF MONTANA OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20-89

UP MONTANA

## EXECUTIVE ORDER ESTABLISHING THE MINE PERMITTING IMPROVEMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

WHEREAS, mining is an important part of Montana's heritage; and

WHEREAS, the continuation of existing mining operations is crucial to the economic health of Montana; and

WHEREAS, the development of new mines must be encouraged to increase Montana's economic vitality; and

WHEREAS, environmental impacts from mining must be minimized through the mine permitting process; and

WHEREAS, the permitting process should be periodically reviewed and improved, so as to protect the environment and public health of Montanans, while also allowing for orderly and efficient mineral development.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, STAN STEPHENS, Governor of the State of Montana, do hereby establish the Mine Permitting Improvement Advisory Council.

#### I. PURPOSE

The Mine Permitting Improvement Advisory Council shall:

- 1. Review the current mine permitting system in Montana;
- 2. Compare Montana's system with those from other states;
- 3. Recommend to the Governor improvements that could be achieved administratively to:
  - A. expedite the permitting process,
  - B. increase public participation in the process,
  - C. protect the environment from mining impacts;
- 4. Propose to the Governor necessary legislation to achieve the above recommendations.

#### II. COMPOSITION

The following persons shall serve on the Mine Permitting

Improvement Advisory Council at the pleasure of the Governor:

Art Wittich, Chair Governor's Office Helena, MT 59620

Gary Amestoy, Ex-officio Department of State Lands Helena, MT 59620

Steve Pilcher, Ex-officio Department of Health and Environmental Sciences Helena, MT 59620

Van Jamison, Ex-officio
Department of Natural
Resources and Conservation
Helena, MT 59620

John Mundinger, Ex-officio Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks Helena, MT 59620

Chuck Wassinger U.S. Forest Service P.O. Box 7669 Missoula, MT 59807

Tom Lonnie
U.S. Bureau of Land
Management
P.O. Box 36800
Billings, MT 59107

Max Botz Hydrometrics, Inc. 2727 Airport Road Helena, MT 59601 Debbie Schmidt Environmental Quality Council Helena, MT 59620

Kim Wilson Montana Environmental Information Center 405 N. Last Chance Gulch Helena, MT 59601

Tony Schoonen Montana Wildlife Federation P.O. Box 2 Ramsay, MT 59748

Dave Suhr ASARCO P.O. Box 440 Wallace, ID 83873

John Fitzpatrick
Pegasus Gold, Inc.
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MT 59638

Bruce Gilbert
Stillwater Mining Company
P.O. Box 365
Nye, MT 59061

Brent Bailey Noranda Inc. P.O. Box 15638 Denver, CO 80215

Bill Harbrecht Western Energy Company P.O. Box 1899 Billings, MT 59103

#### III. COMPENSATION

The Council members shall not be eligible for compensation or reimbursed for travel expenses. It is anticipated that all meetings will be held in Helena, and called by the Chair no more frequently than bi-monthly.

### IV. <u>DURATION</u>

This Council shall exist through December 31, 1990. This Order is effective August 31, 1989.

GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana, this 31st day of August, in the year of our LORD, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eight-Nine.

STAN STEPHENS, Governor

ATTEST:

MIKE COONEY, Secretary of State